

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/529,128	06/30/2000	GRAHAM FRANCOIS DUIRS	08059-0001	2910	
22852 75	852 7590 10/18/2005		EXAMINER		
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER			DEVORE, PETER T		
LLP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			ARTONII	FARER NUMBER	
			3751		
				DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The indicated allowability of claims 13, 17, and 19 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Kurz. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 12-14, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurz.

The Kurz reference discloses an internal substance delivery device (Figure 6) comprising a support frame 1, outwardly biased resilient arms (see col. 4, lines 40-44) which are capable of "interlocking" (see Figures 7 and 8), releasably receivable substance delivery means (the wound copper wire on the arms, see col. 4, lines 20-29), and a locator 7. Regarding claims 5 and 6, note that wire is flexible and has a round cross section). Regarding claim 9, see Figure 4.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Application/Control Number: 09/529,128 Page 3

Art Unit: 3751

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurz.

The Kurz reference discloses a device as discussed supra, but remains silent as to the material of the support frame. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the support frame from nylon, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In Re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Application/Control Number: 09/529,128

Art Unit: 3751

Page 4

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter T. deVore whose telephone number is (571) 272-4884. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Pd Pd

JUSTINE R. YU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

10/14/05